

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

March 11, 2004 LB 526, 1179
 LR 211

ASSISTANT CLERK: (Record vote read, Legislative Journal page 1010.) The vote is 39 ayes, 0 nays, 4 present and not voting, 6 excused and not voting, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: LB 1179 passes. Mr. Clerk, LR 211CA.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, with respect to LR 211CA, Senator Erdman would move to return the resolution to Select File for specific amendment, that being AM3069. (Legislative Journal page 1011.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Erdman, you're recognized to open on your motion to return LR 211CA for a specific amendment. Senator Erdman.

SENATOR ERDMAN: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature. The amendment that's filed is what I would deem to be a noncontroversial amendment. So it's obviously not LB 526, so you can rest at ease. But I've been listening through the debate of the Legislature for the last four years, and understand that we as a Legislature evidently decided that we're going to respond to most petitions that are out there, and I figured that why not have a day in court here where we can respond to another one of the petitions that's out there. So that's AM3069. This is not an effort, however, to steal Senator Chambers' amendment here. Actually, this would add another provision, which is allowable under the law. So we're not going to gut Senator Chambers' constitutional amendment. So I'm trying to be collegial to the senior member on that issue, because of his efforts this session to be collegial with all of us. So I wanted to make sure that that was in the record, that we're trying to be fair and open, that Senator Chambers has worked extremely hard to get LR 211CA across the finish line, and I didn't want to do anything to inhibit that, but rather saw this as an opportunity to piggyback on what it is that he was doing. AM3069 would add an opportunity for the citizens of the state of Nebraska to show their support for how we resolve some of the issues in the state of Nebraska, and specifically our budget decision in the area of revenue. This constitutional amendment would offer the electors of the jurisdiction to approve increased tax rates or new taxes on income, property, or